



INSPECTOR GENERAL

27 June 1989

NOTE TO: Deputy Director for Administration

Rae,

As you will see after reading the attached memo, there continues to be irritation in SE Division over their space in the New Headquarters Building.

STAT



William F. Donnelly

Attachment

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

INSPECTOR GENERAL
89-835

21 June 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of the Inspector General

INFO: Chief, Safety Division,
Office of Medical Services
Chief, Facilities Management Group,
Office of Logistics
Chief, SE Logistics

SUBJECT: 1. Restroom Facilities for Women in
the New Building
2. The New Building in General

FROM: DO/SE

REFERENCES: A. 20 June Memo from C/OMS/Safety Division
B. 7 June Memo from Undersigned to FMG/OL
C. 1 June Memo from FMG/OL to Undersigned
D. 17 May Memo from Undersigned to FMG/OL

1. I appreciate having received a copy of Reference A memorandum concerning a safety inspection of the ladies' rooms in the New Headquarters Building (NHB), and I'm grateful that the inspection resulted in plans to improve the lighting (Ref C). I want to emphasize my appreciation for References A and C--no one had to send them to me. That's about as much "positive reinforcement" as I can offer (though it is quite sincere). When you're up to your eyeballs in the NHB, it's hard to remember the principle of "positive reinforcement," partly because we haven't seen much of it directed toward us, with the exception of the above-mentioned memos and the OIG attention we're getting.

2. Although the gesture appeased me, most of the substance of Reference A enraged me. I don't know whether actually saw my memo of 17 May--that is, I don't know whether he misread parts of it, or whether he was incorrectly informed about it, or whether in his (Ref A) memo he was addressing complaints that had been received from others.

a. I said nothing about the fastenings of soap and sanitary napkin dispensers. (I don't even use the sanitary napkin dispensers in the NHB. Why should I spend 25 cents for a product that I can get for 20 cents in the old building?) I did mention the insecure fastenings of sanitary DISPOSAL UNITS. There's a difference. And the disposal units still create problems.

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DD/A REGISTRY
FILE: B/DG-9-AR

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b. I'm grateful for the safety inspection; however, it must have been carried out before 8:30 in the morning, or perhaps in the middle of the night. The cleaning ladies try valiantly to keep up with the trash cans (as I noted in Ref B), but the units are still often overfilled. As for the soap--it is better than when I wrote the 17 May memo, but it is still not adequate. (Incidentally, there has been no soap for 48 hours. In which restroom, you ask? In the only one we have!)

3. Those minor points of my original memo clarified, I would like to move on to a larger issue. For the first time in my career, I feel like making serious trouble. I feel like making life miserable for the administrative managers responsible for our move to this dreadful NHB. I feel like making life miserable for them, because they have made life miserable for us. I wonder if they can imagine what it's like to work in an area that was originally designed to house a computer center. I wonder if they know what it's like to work in a building that is loaded with examples of "user-hostility." The NHB is demeaning. (And all this comes from someone who works in relatively one of the nicest work areas on the floor--if not the nicest.)

a. Why has this division been moved into an area that forces compartmentation out the window (I dream of windows), and that forces us to waste time running to the old building (though we enjoy the fresh air and the views) to consult with our DO colleagues? Why is SE [] a group with too rapid a turnover of personnel to begin with, relegated to a "bull pen"? And about my staff chief, an officer who has the highest respect of experts throughout the US and allied intelligence communities, and who has spent an long career working long hours for this blasted agency: Why is he now sitting, headachy and bleary-eyed, in a dingy little office that is stuck back in an inconvenient corner?

b. Why are there HUGE hallways and stairways with relatively soft but adequate lighting (for show?), and cramped, harshly-lit offices with no room for storage? Why is there an ENORMOUS building entrance (for show?), and a MONSTROUS lobby (for show?) with a ludicrously narrow escalator that is a pain in the neck to use? Why is there construction of flashy and no doubt expensive outdoor sculpture (for show?), and no money for adequate working spaces, not to mention no money for our operations? (This is the really horrifying part of the whole situation.)

c. (I repeat) Why is there only one restroom for so many women?

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d. Why do I feel like putting my fist through the wall every time I walk down the hall?

4. I keep hearing that no matter how legitimate any of our complaints might be, there's nothing that can be done about the basic situation. Sure there is. We can be moved back to the old building. I don't argue that we need a new building. But not this one. Let the administrative staff, that worked so diligently on the plans for this building, move over here. SE Division should be moved back to its original quarters, and AF Division should stay in the old building.

STAT



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